At present, OMCs are using heat shrinkable preformed Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) seals, developed and recommended by the LPG Equipment Research Centre (LERC), as a tamper evident sealing system for LPG cylinders with a view to supplying correct weight gas to the consumers. PVC seals are difficult to duplicate, shrink at high temperature and require special technical expertise to manufacture. The oil industry through LERC is trying to bring about further improvement in the existing PVC seals in use on filled LPG cylinders.

The distributors of OMCs are under strict instructions to check the weight of cylinders at their godowns before delivery, and only correct weight cylinders are to be delivered to the customers. The distributors have also been instructed to ensure that the seals are verified & shown to the customers at the time of delivery. In case any under-weight cylinder is received by the customer, such cylinders are replaced with a fresh refill cylinder without any charges by the OMCs.

OMCs have not come across any established cases of connivance of their employees in the recent period regarding pilferage of LPG from cylinders.

Hydrocarbon Vision-2025

3290. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state.

(a) whether there is any attempt to implement the transitional gas pipeline project in the context of the Hydrocarbon Vision 2025 to safeguard the energy security;

(b) if so, the details of such project in anvil and proposed as on today; and

(c) the details of steps taken to implement the Iran, Pakistan and India (IPI) pipeline project as on today?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) In order to meet the existing shortfall and the projected demand of natural gas and for enhancing country's energy security, one of the options is to import natural gas through transnational gas pipelines. India is pursuing import of natural gas from Iran, Myanmar and Turkmenistan through transnational pipelines. With regard to the Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) Gas Pipeline, the

Government is discussing the details of the project with the Government of Iran and Pakistan at bilateral and trilateral levels, the first tripartite working group meeting of Iran, Pakistan and India on the IPI Gas Pipeline Project was held in Tehran on 14-15 March 2006. Second trilateral meeting of Iran-Pakistan-India is scheduled to be held on 22—24 May, 2006 at Islamabad. Various project related issues including those relating to the Project Structure, Framework Agreement and Pricing are being discussed in these meetings.

As regards gas imports from Myanmar, in January 2005, the then Minister (P&NG) participated in a trilateral Ministerial meeting between the Oil Ministers of Bangladesh, Myanmarand India. In pursuance of the trilateral Joint Press Statement released after that meeting, a Techno-Commercial Working Committee (TCWC) of the representatives of the three countries prepared a draft MoU in February, 2005 to be signed by the three oil Ministers after the approval of their respective Governments. However, no further progress has been achieved as Bangladesh wants the inclusion of certain bilateral issues in the trilateral MoU, which is not acceptable to India.

In view of the above, India is pursuing the option of a gas pipeline from Myanmar through the North-Eastern State of India by passing Bangladesh, Recently GAIL has got a feasibility report of the project-prepared. The discussions with the Myanmar side on the project are continuing.

So far as gas imports from Turkmenistan are concerned, the Governments of Turkmenistan, Afghanistan and Pakistan have been pursuing the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan (TAP) Project. ADB has been designated as the lead development partner for the project. An Indian delegation led by the Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas visited Ashgabat, Turkmenistan on 14-15 February, 2006 to participate in the 9th Steering Committee Meeting of TAP project as an 'Observer'. The Steering Committee has invited India to become an official member of the project. The matter is under examination for taking a view.

Lack of facilities at retail outlets

t3291. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

t Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.